Director of Peerless was arrested under FERA at Calcutta Airport on the 12th September, 1989 and the incriminating documents relating to his foreign accounts and that of his family members, were in his possession; and

(b) if so, what further action has so far been taken against him under FERA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) It is a fact the Shri P.C. Sen, Managing Director of Peerless was arrested under FERA after a search at Calcutta Airport and certain documents considered to be relevant for investigation under FERA were recovered and seized from him. Thereafter, *13* Show Cause Notices were issued to him in the case. After adjudication proceedings, the show cause notices were dropped.

भारत में प्रति व्यक्ति सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन

3238. मौलाना ओबैदुल्ला खान आजमी: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या जापान, दक्षिण कोरिया और मलेशिया की तुलना में भारत में प्रति व्यक्ति सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पादन काफी कम है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके क्या कारण है; और

(ग) इस स्थिति में सुधार लाने के लिए क्या प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) विश्व विकास रिपोर्ट, 1992 के अनुसार वर्ष 1990 के दौरान भारत, जापान, कोरिया गणराज्य और मलेशिया का प्रति व्यक्ति सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद क्रमशः 350, 25430, 5400, 2320, डालर था।

हमारी विकासशील अर्थव्यवस्था में प्रति व्यक्ति सकल राष्ट्रीय उत्पाद के निम्न स्तर का मुख्य कारण जनसंख्या विस्तार की उच्च वृद्धि दर और 1970 के अन्त तक अर्थव्यवस्था में अपेक्षाकृत कम वृद्धि होना है। सरकार ने जनसंख्या में तीव्र वृद्धि को रोकने और अर्थव्यवस्था की विकास दर बढ़ाने के लिए अनेक कदम उठाए हैं।

Unpopularity of Mutual Funds

3239. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that recently announced Mutual Fund Scheme was not so popular in the public and it was an out-right failure;

(b) what is actual collection received by Nationalised Banks under this Scheme;

(c) whether this Scheme is not suitable for investment;

(d) whether there has been any adverse impact on this Scheme due to Security Scam; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Balance of Payment Position

3240. SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHAND-RAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the balance of payment position is steady or fluctuating at present; and

(b) what is the balance of payment reserves on the 30th June, on the 30th September, on the 31st October and on the 30th November, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) The balance of payments position as reflected in the level of foreign exchange reserves is fairly steady since it is fluctuating within a reasonable range as evident from the movement of reserves described below. The foreign exchange

reserves (excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) were as follows:

	(Rs. Crores)
30th June, 1992	16125
30th September, 1992	14937
31st October, 1992	14121
30th November, 1992	12586

Higher Growth Rate in Foreign Banks

3241. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Foreign Banks in India achieved a higher rate of growth during 1991-92 although the Indian Public Sector Banks transacted much higher volume of business;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have studied the reasons for the higher rate of growth of the foreign banks in the country;

(d) if so, what are the findings thereof; and

(e) what action Government have taken to increase the growth rate of Indian Banks in comparison to foreign Banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Quantity and Value of Smuggled Confiscated Items

3242. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity and value of smuggled items which were confiscated by Government during the last two years, item-wise; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to control smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity and value of contraband gold and silver and the value of watches, synthetic fabrics and electronic goods and the value of all contraband goods seized under the Customs Act, 1962 during the calender years 1991 and 1992 (upto 30th November) are given in the table below:—

	*1991		*1992 (upto 30th Nov.)	
	Quantity (in M.T.)	Value (Rs. in crores)	Quantity (in M.T.)	Value (Rs. in crores)
All contraband seized	—	740.00	—	450.95
Gold	5.02	190.02	2.72	118.20
Silver	197.08	138.20	140.35	107.37
Watches	—	6.37	—	1.78
Synthetic fabrics	—	2.77	—	1.79
Electronic goods	—	56.25	—	14.78

* Figures are provisional

(b) Anti-smuggling drive has been intensified. Anti-smuggling agencies have been equipped with vehicles, vessles, firearms, etc. Sophisticated equipment, such as X-ray baggage machines, metal detectors and night vision binoculars are being increasingly used. A telecommunication net work has been provided, wherever considered necessary. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling.